

replenished: you shall never want while I have any money in my possession."

Frank's eyes thanked him, before words could find a passage, so much was his heart melted by his brother's generous behaviour.

When he recovered the powers of articulation, he poured out liberally his grateful effusions, and then proceeded in the following terms: You have acted, my dear Brother, agreeable to my expectations; but I cannot think of your robbing your own family to support mine. I am not yet, thank heaven, quite driven to indigence: I cannot live as I have done, but I can make a shift to subsist; and nothing but the sight of those united to me by the strongest ties, absolutely in want of the necessaries of life, will prevail on me to take a farthing from your generous hand. I shall not be able to see *them* look up to me for their daily food—look up to me in *vain*.

He could say no more, nor could John immediately make reply to a speech which pierced his soul.—When he was in a condition to answer it, he renewed his offers with additional persuasions, but to no purpose: his amiable, unfortunate brother left him, resolved to support himself without his kind assistance to the last extremity.

Soon after this affecting interview, Mrs. Frances Penning, a woman in every shape deserving of her husband's true regard for her,

was

was seized with a fever; that fever was followed by the small pox: it was of the worst sort, and she died in a very short time. Her daughters, two very fine girls, having caught the same distemper, did not long survive her.

These blows swiftly succeeded each other, almost bereaved the inconsolable husband, the doating father, of his senses; but he had a son remaining: a son who was a very pleasing companion to him, being a sensible boy, doubly so, as he appeared not to have any bad propensities. By Harry's filial efforts to console him, joined to those of his brother and his family, the intellects of his father were preserved; the wounds which his heart had received were irremediable.

In a few months after the above-mentioned melancholy events, Mr. John Penning had a very warm invitation from an intimate friend of his in London, in the same way of business to come and settle with him, and he, without any hesitation, accepted of it. As soon as he had determined to become an associate with his friend Williams, he intreated his brother to let him carry his nephew to London, and that he would also accompany him. "With regard to Harry, added he, I shall, with your leave, take him entirely under my protection; and if you will occupy apartments in my house, every thing shall be done to render the remainder of your days comfortable."

K 2.

Frank